



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## LONDON PEACE SOCIETY.

*Its Thirty-Sixth Anniversary, May 18, 1852.*

The last report of this noble Society gives cheering proof of its increasing zeal and success. Every paragraph of its proceedings shows how boldly and zealously it grapples the existing evils of the war-system, and how promptly it adapts itself to every practical question that arises before it on the subject of peace. The Militia Bill then pending before Parliament was the chief object of resistance and denunciation; but other topics, like the war still raging in Kaffirland, and another threatened in Burmah, received passing attention.

CHARLES HINDLEY, M. P., President of the Society, said, on opening the exercises,—Above a third of a century has elapsed, since a few friends, impressed with the importance of the principles of peace, and conceiving the whole system of war to be contrary to the word of God, endeavored to bring them before the world, and particularly before the Christian public. They went forth, silently in the first instance, and perhaps more loudly in later times, to endeavor to indoctrinate society with the sinfulness of war, and the importance of maintaining peace. But when we consider the circumstances in which we are now placed,—that the first assembly of the most Christian and civilized nation in the world has been incessantly engaged for the last three weeks in endeavoring to establish a new conscription of the English people, and to provide for the defences of the country at a time when statesmen on all hands acknowledge that we are at peace with all the world, it ought to rouse us to increased exertion. We ought to ask ourselves seriously, are there any other means by which we can push forward this great movement? I can not but regard with pain the circumstances to which I have alluded; and if any unhappy expression shall escape me, partaking more of the spirit of a soldier than of a peace man, it may be excused from the bad company I have lately been in.

The Militia Bill has been opposed with resoluteness and determination, particularly by our friends Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and Gibson, which, however much it may have troubled, has elicited the admiration of their opponents. Last night there were seven divisions on the subject; and in each of the short debates which gave rise to them, some principles and facts were brought forward, which could not but sink into an intelligent community, and ultimately bring forth fruit. For instance, Sir Henry Willoughby made a motion, that married men should be exempted from the conscription. The House did not see, and I did not see, why married men, having homes to defend, should be excused from defending them, and be allowed to lay the whole duty upon the single portion of the population. Mr. Milner Gibson then proposed that schoolmasters should be exempt; and, though there was some show of argument in favor of their exemption, the House decided upon rejecting that proposition also. Mr. Gibson rose after the division, and said he perceived the House was quite against exemptions. There were loud cheers from the Ministerial benches. He took that cheer, and proposed that the peers of the land should not be exempt. They were caught in their own trap. If we were to have fighting, why should not peers, who had more to fight for than any one else, take part? The Militia Bill has been so strongly opposed in the House, that an old statesman, who has been a member for some forty years, said it reminded him of the old ballad:—

“And when Billy Pitt a new tax he projected,  
Then uprose great Fox, and stoutly objected.”

At every step there has been an objection to everything which might have a tendency to force the people to go to war.

But apart from the Militia Bill, which must give every serious member of the community pain, as exhibiting a tendency towards the employment of physical forces, there is another circumstance to which I would call the attention of this meeting. I allude to the continuance of the unfortunate Kaffir war. It is indeed melancholy to think that a great and powerful Christian country should undertake such a war as that. It seems to be stamped with a folly and an absurdity upon which future generations will pronounce a most decided judgment. It is sometimes my privilege to take some of my constituents through the new Houses of Parliament. They are struck with their beauty and solidity, but frequently ask their expense. I generally answer, that they cost about the same as the Kaffir war. But what a contrast is presented! In one case the money is spent in providing a noble building, in which to conduct the affairs of the nation, and upon which posterity will look with pleasure; in the other it is spent in the murder and massacre of our fellow-creatures, without any result to interest or benefit mankind.

But I think there is a better time coming. About a fortnight ago I had the pleasure of accompanying our friends of the Aborigines Society to the new Colonial Secretary, Sir John Pakington, who, notwithstanding his being of opposite politics, put forward many statements which I thought were founded on truth and calculated to benefit the colonies, if carried out. And in the debate on the vote for the Kaffir war, Sir John admitted the excellence of the policy for which the friends of peace are contending in opposition to that pursued by Sir Harry Smith, who, within three weeks of his arrival at the Cape added fifty or sixty thousand square miles to the colonial territory. Of course, he said, this was a wholesale robbery of the Aborigines, and naturally led to war. It now becomes a serious question, what course shall be adopted under the circumstances. It is to be hoped that we shall return, however humiliating it may be to military men, to this boundary which will leave the Aborigines that portion of the country which really belongs to them. Those acquisitions, while they irritate the savage tribes who inhabit them, have led us into an expensive and disgraceful war, which adds neither strength nor benefit to our country. Let it be our desire and endeavor, that the glory of England shall rest on the promotion of the arts of peace; that she shall be foremost in the spread of Christianity, and hold out to foreign countries an exhibition, not of martial triumphs, but of peaceful glory.

SUBSTANCE OF THE REPORT.—Rev. H. Richard, instead of reading it, extemporized a brief abstract of its contents.—It opened with an allusion to the remarkable success which attended the Great Exhibition of last year, whether regarded as an industrial or a pacific demonstration, and to the hopes and feelings it inspired in the minds of so many, that it would be the means of promoting, in an eminent degree, mutual friendship and confidence among the nations of the earth—hopes and feelings to which many of our leading statesmen at the time gave glowing and eloquent utterance, though their conduct since then has served to bring into grievous suspicion the sincerity of their language. It was a most fitting and happy coincidence, that at the time when our streets were thronged with foreign visitors, especially from among our neighbors the French, Mr. Cobden brought forward his motion in the House of Commons, “for preventing in future that rivalry of warlike preparations between England and France which has hitherto been the policy of the two Governments, and to promote, if possible, a mutual reduction of armaments.” Nothing could be more satisfactory than the tone of the debate which ensued, if that might be called a debate, where the arguments

and sentiments were all on one side, and where Lord Palmerston, as the organ of the Government, though objecting to be bound in such a resolution and declared emphatically and repeatedly his readiness "to adopt both the motion and speech of the Hon. gentleman, as expressing the unanimous feeling of the whole House of Commons, that not only do we *hope* that the relations between England and France *will* be, but that we almost think—if common sense actuates those who, on both sides, have the management of affairs—they *must* be friendly to each other; that the mutual suspicions and reciprocal jealousies which may from time to time have misled the calculations of those, who in each country have had the management of affairs, will disappear, and that mutual confidence will take the place of reciprocal distrust."

It may not be altogether impertinent to the circumstances by which we are now surrounded, to cite one other remarkable passage from the speech of the noble lord on the same occasion. "I am convinced that the greater intercourse which has taken place of late years between the people of the two countries, has dispelled many prejudices, and removed many foolish, hostile feelings, which had long survived the cause that gave them rise. It is one of the most gratifying circumstances of the times in which we live, to see two great nations situated close to each other, each gifted by nature with various qualities entitling them to the esteem, to the friendship, and I will say to the admiration, of each other; capable of rendering each other the most important services, capable also, if actuated by fatal passions—of inflicting upon each other the greatest calamities—it is most gratifying to see that every day, every month, and every year, brings these two nations into more general and friendly contact, and that feelings of mutual friendship and esteem are rapidly succeeding those antiquated notions of national antipathy, of which, I trust there will very soon remain no trace, except the records which former histories may contain." Admirable sentiments beyond all doubt, but on which the recent conduct and speeches of the noble lord furnish a very curious commentary.

Mr. Richard then adverted to the Peace Congress held in London last July, as one of the noblest and most inspiring spectacles that ever gratified the eye or gladdened the heart of the wise and good. The English delegation consisted of more than a thousand men from every part of the country, presided over by Sir David Brewster, and numbering many gentlemen of great distinction and ability, to whom were joined eminent men of kindred spirit from France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Spain, Denmark, and other European countries, as well as from the United States of America and the West Indies; all minds animated by one thought, and all hearts beating in unison to one lofty and unselfish purpose. They availed themselves of the opportunity afforded for the diffusion of their principles among the great concourse of foreigners drawn to London during the Exhibition, by preparing and publishing a large number and variety of tracts and publications on peace in the French, German and Italian languages. Many thousands of them were distributed in various ways, and will, it cannot be doubted, be productive of lasting and valuable results.

The regular operations of the society, by means of lectures, meetings, circulation of tracts, &c., has been carried on during the past year with more than ordinary activity. Mr. Stokes has been unremitting in his labors, having visited and held meetings at seventy or eighty places; besides rendering valuable assistance in London before and during the Congress. His services have been increasingly acceptable and efficient. The Secretary has also assisted during the year at a large number of meetings in various parts of the kingdom.

In the course of last Autumn, circumstances of a somewhat remarkable character occurred, which for a time placed the friends of peace in this country in a position of some difficulty, and exposed them to much misconstruction from a portion of the public press. An illustrious foreigner, just relieved from a painful captivity to which he had been consigned at the close of a long struggle for the freedom of his native land, paid a visit to our shores. That the people of England, and among them the friends of peace, should rejoice in the deliverance of this distinguished man from a position where not only his natural liberty but his life was in danger, was surely most natural and fitting. But when it became gradually known, what was at first but very obscurely intimated, that an attempt was to be made to convert this generous enthusiasm into an occasion for demanding the armed interference of our Government in favor of Hungary, it was obvious that it became the friends of peace to be on their guard, lest they should become apparently implicated in the results which they were far from contemplating, while joining in the hospitable welcome with which the exile was received. The committee, therefore, deemed it their duty to issue an address of respectful and affectionate caution to their friends on the subject. Subsequent events have still more clearly demonstrated that this course was necessary and well-advised; and the American Peace Society, feeling that they were exposed to a similar danger, under similar circumstances followed our example. The committee are happy to be able to declare their firm conviction,—notwithstanding the averments made to the contrary by some who are willing to wound those whose principles they fear and dislike,—that not one individual of the peace party, even amidst the extraordinary excitement of that period, was betrayed into lending countenance to this doctrine of armed intervention, or in any way compromising his consistency.

The continuance of the unhappy war against the Kaffirs in South Africa, seemed to the committee to call for some special action on their part, to direct the public attention to its supreme folly and iniquity;—a war provoked by our own restless territorial aggrandizement, effected at the expense of all justice, honor and humanity; a war which is costing annually more than three or four times the value of our commercial exports to South Africa; a war which, unless our whole system of policy in that country is changed, can be followed, even when it is closed, with only an armed and temporary truce, to break forth again with unfailing certainty, in a series of other wars, each more costly and sanguinary than the last. It is not necessary to deny that the Kaffirs have many of the vices of all uncivilized tribes, or that they have committed under a consciousness of wrong, many acts of plunder and cruelties on the colonists. But all doubts as to who are the principal aggressors in this territorial conflict, is set at rest by this one broad and glaring fact, that while half a century ago we had not an acre of land in South Africa, now the area of our dominion there extends over more than 260,000 square miles, a country as large as the entire Austrian empire; nearly the whole of which belonged to the Kaffir and Aboriginal tribes, and for which there is no record that one penny was ever paid in the way of purchase-money to the rightful possessors. Acting under these convictions, the committee, uniting for the purpose with the Aborigines Protection Society, called a public meeting on this subject, at the London Tavern, when Samuel Gurney, Esq., the Treasurer of the Society, took the chair. Since that time, the committee have not ceased to keep the matter before the public mind, and the Secretary especially has attended many meetings convened for this object. The most recent tidings received from the Cape, do not hold out any rational prospect of a speedy termination of the war; nor can we see how anything like a permanent peace can be secured, until our Government has

the courage to disregard the claims of a false national honor, and do justice to those whom it has wronged, by surrendering back to the legitimate possessors the inheritance of their fathers, of which they have been gradually despoiled through long years of treachery and violence.

The committee cannot but advert, in this connection, with the deepest regret to the information that has recently reached this country, that the authorities which represent our Government in the East, have entered upon another war with the Burman empire. It would be premature to pronounce any judgment on the merits of this quarrel in the present imperfect state of our knowledge. But, if it be true, as has been affirmed, both in Parliament and through the press, that the sole cause of the dispute relates to an indemnity of £900 claimed of the Burman Government by certain of our merchants trading in that country, it can surely be but a matter of lamentation that no means could be found to adjust so trivial an affair, without involving the two nations in a war, the expense of which will not only soon absorb more than a hundred fold the miserable sum in question, but will most probably for a time interrupt all commerce, and lead to a destruction of human life and property, and to scenes of wickedness and suffering, which it is appalling to contemplate.

About the close of last year an extraordinary event occurred in a neighboring nation, by which the entire character of its government was changed in one night. The only real significance which this startling transaction had for this country, was that of furnishing another impressive warning to us against trusting our liberties to any Government, having at its command a large standing army. At no time, and in no respect, did it assume a hostile or menacing aspect towards England. On the contrary, it became apparent from the very first, that if our statesmen had wisdom to abstain from meddling in that which concerned them not, there were neither the means nor the disposition on the part of the new *regime* to disturb the friendly relations which had so long existed between the two countries. No sooner, however, had the French *coup d'etat*, become known on this side the channel, than a perfect scream of terror and alarm was raised by certain parties in this country, who, from professional pretensions, ought to have been the very models of calm intrepidity and self-possession. Some of this was no doubt real; as those who trust only in arms for their defence, are always the most open to amazement and fright. But much of it also, it cannot be doubted, was feigned and artificial, as affording a good opportunity for restoring predominance to military ideas, which from various reasons, had been losing ground in this country for several years past. All sorts of improbable and contradictory projects of invasion were gravely prognosticated and discussed, some of them so supremely absurd, nay, so utterly and physically impossible, that it is surprising the public mind, even in the agony of a panic, did not laugh them to scorn. "For a time," it was remarked, "senseless and cowardly apprehensions prevailed to such an extent that the voice of peace could nowhere be lifted up without being instantly drowned in cries of indignation and insult."

Under these circumstances, the friends of peace looked forward with great anxiety to the meeting of Parliament, and the course which the Government might take on the subject. They found, however, to their great relief, that the leading men of all parties in the state not only disclaimed all participation in the panic, but rebuked with marked severity those by whom it had been formed and fomented; declared that our relations with all foreign countries were most satisfactory; that the French President especially, was fully disposed to entertain friendly relations and maintain a pacific policy; and that our army and navy were never in a more efficient state than at this

moment. But the ministers, to the utter astonishment of the country, after these emphatic denials of danger, after these confident declarations of security, after these reiterated assurances of friendship and good understanding with all foreign powers, signified their intention to bring in a bill for enrolling a militia force of 120,000 men!

The committee, feeling that it was a very serious and critical time for the cause of peace, thought it was wise to summon a conference of the friends of peace to deliberate on the whole question, before commencing any public movement. After a careful and dispassionate consideration of the whole case, it was unanimously resolved that it was the imperative duty of the friends of peace to employ all prudent and practicable means to counteract the public alarm, and to resist the proposed enrolment of the militia, or the increase of our national establishments. Since that time, the utmost energies of the committee have been bent in this direction. They have not ceased to ply their friends with letters, circulars, and forms of petition. They have prepared and issued myriads of tracts and posting-bills, pointing out the obnoxious character of the militia measure. They have originated a large number of public meetings, many of which have been attended by the Secretary and Mr. Stokes, and other gentlemen, who have gone at their request as deputations to different parts of the country. They have also to acknowledge especially the valuable service rendered in connexion with this subject by a large number of gentlemen.

The effects of this agitation, though not as successful as they could wish, have been marked and substantial. More than 1,300 petitions have been presented to the House of Commons, and a minority of 165 have voted for throwing out the bill on the second reading; a number which cannot but be regarded as a significant homage to the power of public opinion, when compared with the fact that, before the agitation began, there were probably scarcely twenty men in the House prepared to record their votes against it. But other advantages still more valuable have sprung from this evil. It has furnished an excellent opportunity for educating the country in the principles of peace, as well as for testing the practical results of our former teaching in this respect. These results have proved on the whole the most gratifying, as seen not only in the action on the Legislature to which we have already referred, but in the resolute good sense and feeling with which the people have refused to lend themselves to that fierce outcry which would treat a neighboring nation which has not given the slightest provocation or offence, as if they were a horde of pirates and banditti, and in the firm determination, expressed by multitudes of our young men, that they will suffer all consequences, rather than submit to the degradation of this mongrel compulsory soldiery. A still more happy consequence of this attempt to subject England to a military conscription, and of the divisions and the debates to which it has given rise, is the conviction which it has extensively begun to awake in the minds of many of the friends of peace, to whom such thoughts had previously been strangers, that it is a solemn part of their duty as men and as Christians, to use their social and political influence to rescue the legislature of the country from that predominance of military ideas which at present unhappily prevails, by the return of men who shall more worthily represent the improved, and rapidly improving, sentiments of the British public on questions of peace and war. A more fatal mistake has never been committed, or one which has told more disastrously on the general course of our national legislation, than that which has led pious and conscientious men to shrink from their political responsibilities, as though they were irreligious or profane, and thus implicitly surrender into the hands of men practically irreligious, a means of influence, affecting

to an incalculable extent, not only the interests of our own country, but the progress of great principles and the universal destinies of humanity. It will be an advantage cheaply purchased even at the expense of a Militia Bill, if the effect shall be to arouse a solemn determination in the minds of the friends of peace throughout this country, who are not a contemptible party either in numbers or social influence, to protest against sending into Parliament a shoal of naval and military men who sit there to vote their own salaries, and treat with *hauteur* and contempt the true representatives of the people. It has been my privilege or penance, as you may count it, to listen to most of the debates on the Militia Bill; and I declare to you my deep conviction, that in no other assembly in this country would an allusion to the principles of Christianity be received with such undisguised scorn as I have seen it treated with in the House of Commons. I say that in this respect they do not represent the people of England, who, thank God, have not yet learned to treat the principles of the gospel with ridicule and scorn.

In conclusion, the committee would exhort their friends not to "babe one jot of heart or hope." The influences that are against us belong to an order of things that are accidental and temporary; while those that are on our side, number all the most permanent and growing tendencies of the age. Whoever, therefore, may laugh, — whoever, from the high places of the earth may pour odium and scorn upon our efforts, — we shall not falter, we shall not retreat, we shall not even hesitate; but, planting one foot upon the everlasting principles of the gospel, firm beneath our tread as a pavement of adamant, and fixing our eyes upon the declared purpose of Heaven: as to the consummation of our hopes, we will abide faithfully by the conviction, that the time will come, that the time is even now rapidly coming, when this world shall be purged of the brutal follies of war, when men shall learn to recognise the common fatherhood of God, and the common brotherhood of man, and when the voice of rejoicing and triumph, heard through the tabernacles of humanity, shall proclaim that at length peace, permanent and universal peace, has been established to the uttermost ends of the earth.

The Rev. WILLIAM BROCK moved the first resolution: —

"That this meeting would revert with humble and devout gratitude to the Congress of the friends of peace, held in London in the month of July last, associated as is the remembrance of it with no feelings save those of unqualified satisfaction, and eminently adapted as it was both to express and promote those sentiments of brotherhood and peace so happily inspired by the general gathering of the nations at that time in this metropolis, to witness the peaceful and marvellous triumphs of commerce, industry, and art, displayed in the Great Exhibition."

There ought to be deep thankfulness to God, in looking back to the Great Exhibition. There have been many great gatherings in former times; but art and commerce never had their great gathering till last year. It was assigned to the nineteenth century with its civilization, and to our fatherland with its Protestantism. It should be recollected that the Exhibition was an effect — that Prince Albert did not make it. He made the suggestion out of which it proximately came; but, if our fathers had not labored in the cause of virtue, and peace, and religion, it would have never been. They labored; and we, rather too ostentatiously I think, have entered into their labors. I think we should have reaped with a great deal more thankfulness. I rejoice that this great gathering of the nations has tended to facilitate the solution of some rather perplexing problems; and that many a man, under many a form of government, has learned by what he saw and felt there, to give up the impracticable, and adhere to that which is within his reach — to abandon his love for the warlike, and addict himself to the habits and principles of the gospel, unlearning the dark ferocious barbarism of an antiquated feu-



dalism, and learning instead the lessons of the Prince of Peace. I should like to know whether the circulation of information, and the answering of objections by the Peace Society, have had nothing to do with the improvement of public sentiment. It is often said, somewhat facetiously, 'I am not a member of the Peace Society.' I would say 'I am a member of the Peace Society,' and stand upon my dignity in saying it. I advocate peace in my family, in my pulpit, and wherever I have an opportunity.

At a recent meeting in Exeter Hall, it was said by one of the speakers—'I do not know whether there are any members of the Peace Society here,' mentioning it as a sort of apology for them, if there were; and he then added, 'there are many things worse than war.' And this gentleman was applauded by the meeting! When I call to mind all the fearful consequences of war, I do not think there is *anything* worse. Certainly the expulsion of Protestant missionaries from Hungary was not worse. If God has put a barrier in the way of truth, men should let it alone, and not do evil that good may come. Missionaries were expelled from Madagascar; and yet in God's own time, what glorious results have taken place, almost without the agency of preachers! The destruction of human liberty is not worse than war. If I could liberate all the slaves of America to-morrow by military force,—much as I deplore their condition,—I would not do it. I think there are not many things worse than war; and in looking to the history of early Christians, I am confirmed in this opinion. Celsus charged them with cowardice, as many now charge the members of the Peace Society; but Origen said, 'No, it is not cowardice; we are not afraid of doing anything except offending Christ.' When Maximilian was told, 'You must fight,' he replied, 'I can't.' 'You shall.' 'I won't.' That is true bravery; and many a man who will not fight, will submit to imprisonment, and undergo hardships in foreign lands, which require more heroism than the mere display of brute force on a battle-field. War, under all circumstances, offensive or defensive—no matter what its accompaniments—in every conceivable aspect in which the mind can look at it—is in direct antagonism to that gospel the annunciation of which to man was, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men."

SAMUEL BOWLY, Esq., proposed the second resolution:—

"That this meeting cannot conceal its indignation and surprise at the pertinacity with which the Militia Bill is forced through the House of Commons against the earnest remonstrance of the country as expressed in more than 1400 petitions, and without one plausible fact or argument being adduced to prove the necessity of a measure so pregnant with manifold moral and social evils to the community, and cannot but regard this fact as an additional and imperative call upon the friends of peace strenuously to use their influence at the forthcoming election, not in the spirit of political partizanship, but of religious fidelity to their principles, to ensure the return to Parliament of men less imbued with military ideas, and more under the influence of Christian sentiments."

I have made up my mind never to vote for a military or naval man. Such men are committed to the principle of war by ties too close to vote for its abolition; slaveholders would as soon vote for the abolition of slavery.

I very much regret the course taken during the late period of the war panic. Nothing could be more like aggressive warfare than the course pursued by certain parties in this country. In war, words usually precede blows; and I can conceive nothing more offensive to the President of France than telling him to his face, that we did not believe him, and that he was nothing better than a pirate or a robber, caring nothing for the ordinary rules of government—nothing could be more aggravating, or more calculated to lead to a war, than such a course of proceeding. The President might

say, 'I am sure the people of England are too sensible to suppose I am going to make war upon them; their intention must be to go to war with me; and if they increase their military force, I must do the same.'

There are many persons who profess to hold the Peace principle, but say they cannot go the whole way with many peace advocates. *I am a peace man because I am a Christian.* I believe that, as a Christian, I have no option but to be a peace man. I never intend to lower my standard. If I am laughed at, I shall only cling the closer to my principles.

A great deal has been said about *the results of a general disarmament*. Christians have nothing to do with consequences; they should leave them in the hands of God. I am not prepared to say that no lives would be lost by adopting the peace principle; but I affirm unhesitatingly, that infinitely fewer lives would be lost by its adoption than by a melancholy and sad system of war. If a thousandth part of the individuals slain in war had had the moral courage to sacrifice their lives on the scaffold, tyranny would not have been exercised over the world at the present moment.

I believe a great deal has been gained by the discussion of the Militia Bill. That bill I look upon as a mere nonentity; and all that the people have now to do, is to raise a subscription for the support of the families of those who will go to jail, if Government attempt to enforce the law. It is necessary that the people should be taught a higher lesson and a higher courage than that of brute force—that it is far better to suffer in a right cause, than go to a field of battle. It is the false notion of military glory that has done so much evil in the world.

The last resolution was in these words:—

"That this meeting observe with the deepest sorrow and regret that while the unhappy and ignoble war in South Africa still continues, with no immediate prospect of termination, our country is likely to be involved in another protracted conflict with the Burman empire, events which serve only to confirm their conviction that so long as the present unhappy predominance is given to military ideas and agencies in administering the affairs of our colonial dependencies, Great Britain can never hope worthily to fulfil the high mission which seems to have been entrusted to her by Providence as the instrument of Christianizing and civilizing the world. That this meeting thankfully acknowledge the effective service rendered to the cause of peace during the past year by the committee, urgently commend to their future attention the duty of memorializing the present Government on the subject of the Kaffir war, and strongly deprecate and discourage the contemplated war with the Burman empire."

---

#### MISCELLANIES.

**WICKLIFFE ON WAR.**—This day-star of all modern reformations in the Christian Church, wrote in 1383, the year before his death, in the sixty-first of his age, a tract, in which he develops the germ of those peace principles which have since spread more or less among all denominations. He complains of the Pope for "bringing the seal and banner of Christ upon the cross, that is, the token of peace, mercy and charity, for to slay all christian men, to mayntayne his worldly state, and to oppress Christendom. Why will not the proud priest of Rome grant full pardon to all men for to live in peace and charity, and patience, as he doth for to fight and slay Christian men?" The tract breathes throughout the same spirit, and is full of argu-